

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Twenty-ninth Middlesex Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2003.

Residents of Twenty-ninth Middlesex Representative District

Characteristics of Admissions

In FY 2003, there were 115,896 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; 1.2% (1,308) of these admissions reside in the Twenty-ninth Middlesex Representative District. 2% (20) of admissions from the Twenty-ninth Middlesex Representative District were under 17 years of age. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2003, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the Twenty-ninth Middlesex Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 76% were male and 24% were female.
- 58% were between the ages of 30-49.
- 71% were white non-Latino, 17% were black non-Latino, 9% were Latino, and 3% were other racial categories.
- 66% were never married, 10% were married, and 24% reported not to be married now.
- 23% had less than high school education, 46% completed high school, and 31% had more than high school education.
- 23% were employed.
- 27% were homeless.
- 28% had prior mental health treatment.

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Twenty-ninth Middlesex Representative District.

Table 1					
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2003					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	51%	30%	6%	5%	3%
State	43%	38%	6%	4%	4%

Substances Used in Past Year

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 2							
Annual Admissions by Substance Used: FY 1995 – FY 2003							
Twenty-ninth Middlesex Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	2,730	2,325	829	915	608	691	423
FY '96	2,274	1,946	779	766	580	598	424
FY '97	2,186	1,878	755	684	501	625	448
FY '98	2,068	1,706	664	607	431	629	494
FY '99	1,998	1,601	594	538	348	639	446
FY '00	1,699	1,314	412	420	245	566	452
FY '01	1,464	1,162	374	331	172	501	371
FY '02	1,334	985	283	275	148	493	334
FY'03	1,308	959	346	321	194	451	318